

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of correlating time sequenced data streams
2 comprising:
3 identifying events within a first data stream;
4 generating positional information, also known as
5 data pointers, for identified events;
6 assigning a time-stamp to each event; and
7 correlating data from the first data stream to
8 data in a second data stream based on the time-stamped
9 data pointers.
- 1 2. A method as described in claim 1, wherein the first
2 data stream is a word processing data stream and the
3 second data stream is an audio data stream.
- 1 3. A method as described in claim 1, wherein the time-
2 stamp is generated by a common system logger.
- 1 4. A method as described in claim 1, wherein the system
2 logger time stamps data in the second data stream.
- 1 5. A method of correlating events in data streams
2 comprising the steps of:
3 detecting events within a first data stream and
4 assigning corresponding data pointers to the events;

-35-

5 detecting events within a second data stream and
6 assigning corresponding data pointers to the events;
7 and
8 utilizing the data pointers to link events in the
9 first data stream to events in the second data stream.

1 6. A method as described in claim 5 further comprising
2 the step of:
3 in addition to assigning data pointers, assigning
4 time-stamps to the events in the first data stream and
5 the second data stream to correlate events in the
6 first data stream with events in the second data
7 stream.

1 7. A method as described in claim 6 further comprising
2 the steps of:
3 identifying an event in the first data stream;
4 and
5 locating of a corresponding event in the second
6 data stream using the time-stamps as an index.

1 8. A method as described in claim 6, wherein the time-
2 stamps assigned to the first data stream and second
3 data stream are generated from a common system clock.

1 9. A method as described in claim 6, wherein the time-
2 stamps assigned to the first data stream and second
3 data stream are generated from separate but
4 synchronized clocks.

1 10. A method as described in claim 5, wherein the first
2 data stream is asynchronous.

1 11. A method as described in claim 5 further comprising
2 the step of:

3 presenting the first data stream with a time-
4 varying playback rate.

1 12. A method as described in claim 5, wherein an event in
2 the first data stream is defined by a fixed passage of
3 time.

1 13. A method as described in claim 5, wherein the first
2 data stream includes data generated by a word
3 processor and the second data stream includes audio
4 data.

1 14. A method as described in claim 5 further comprising
2 the step of:
3 varying a rate of generating the first data
4 stream relative to the second data stream based on
5 detection of events in the second data stream.

1 15. A method as described in claim 5, wherein the first
2 data stream includes audio data and has a playback
3 rate dependent on detection of corresponding textual
4 data in the second data stream.

1 16. A method as described in claim 5, wherein the events
2 in the first stream are random events.

1 17. A method as described in claim 5 further comprising
2 additional data streams in which events are
3 correlated.

1 18. A method as described in claim 5, wherein the first
2 data stream and second data stream are recorded to a
3 storage device for later retrieval and the
4 corresponding data pointers indicate a location of a
5 corresponding event recorded in the storage device.

1 19. An apparatus for correlating time sequenced data
2 streams comprising:
3 an event detector for identifying events within a
4 first data stream and generating positional
5 information for the identified events; and
6 a system logger for assigning a time-stamp to
7 identified events and correlating the time-stamped
8 data in the first data stream with a second data
9 stream.

1 20. An apparatus as described in claim 19, wherein the
2 first data stream is a word processing data stream and
3 the second data stream is an audio data stream.

1 21. An apparatus as described in claim 19, wherein the
2 time-stamp is generated by a common system logger.

- 1 22. An apparatus as described in claim 19, wherein the
2 system logger time-stamps data in the second data
3 stream.
- 1 23. An apparatus for correlating events in data streams
2 comprising:
3 a first event detector for identifying events
4 within a first data stream;
5 a second event detector for identifying events
6 within a second data stream; and
7 a system logger that generates data pointers to
8 correlate an event in the first data stream to an
9 event in the second data stream.
- 1 24. An apparatus as described in claim 23, wherein the
2 system logger assigns time-stamps to the events in the
3 first data stream and the second data stream.
- 1 25. An apparatus as described in claim 24, wherein the
2 time-stamps are used as an index to approximate a
3 location of an event in one data stream to an event in
4 another data stream.
- 1 26. An apparatus as described in claim 24, wherein the
2 time-stamps assigned to the first data stream and
3 second data stream are generated from a common system
4 clock.
- 1 27. An apparatus as described in claim 24, wherein the
2 time-stamps assigned to the first data stream and

3 second data stream are generated from separate but
4 synchronized clocks.

1 28. An apparatus as described in claim 24, wherein the
2 first data stream is asynchronous.

1 29. An apparatus as described in claim 24 further
2 comprising:
3 a playback device that generates the first data
4 stream and varies a rate of a pre-recorded data
5 stream.

1 30. An apparatus as described in claim 23, wherein an
2 event in the first data stream is defined by a fixed
3 passage of time.

1 31. An apparatus as described in claim 23, wherein the
2 first data stream includes data generated by a word
3 processor and the second data stream includes audio
4 data.

1 32. An apparatus as described in claim 23 further
2 comprising the step of:
3 varying a rate of the first data stream relative
4 to the second data stream based on detection of events
5 in the second data stream.

1 33. An apparatus as described in claim 23, wherein the
2 first data stream includes audio data and has a

-40-

3 playback rate dependent on detection of corresponding
4 textual data in the second data stream.

1 34. An apparatus as described in claim 23, wherein the
2 events in the first stream are random events.

1 35. An apparatus as described in claim 23, wherein
2 additional data streams are correlated to the first
3 data stream.

1 36. An apparatus as described in claim 23, wherein the
2 first data stream and second data stream are recorded
3 to a storage device for later retrieval and the
4 corresponding data pointers indicate a location of a
5 corresponding event recorded in the storage device.